Focused on Four

Focused on Four: The Plan and Promise

Focused on Four is a commitment that SVSU makes to incoming freshmen who want to complete a bachelor's degree in four years. While many students opt for completing a degree in five or six years, there are those who want to *focus on four years* to be ready to start their career or have a jump on graduate school.

If you are able and interested in saving time and money and maximizing your earning power, then you should be ***Focused on Four!*** The formula is that simple (although the work requires your focus and attention, along with our assistance via course availability, strong academic advising, online and on-campus courses, etc.). Here's how it works: For the fall and winter semesters per academic year, a student who takes 15-16 credit hours per semester will complete the minimum required 124 hours for a bachelor's degree in four years. Throwing in spring or summer courses here and there reduces the load during fall and winter semesters.

Focused on Four: The Math

Think about what completing a college degree in *more than* four years means:

- You could lose wages of $41,000 per year (median income for 2006 college graduates, per the National Center for Educational Statistics).
- Every semester you extend your enrollment, you potentially add about $6,500 to the cost of your degree (2013 cost estimates).

SVSU Saginaw Valley State University

Focused on Four: The Choice

The decision is yours, and we aren't saying it's an easy one. Our goal is to encourage you to make conscious choices about your education, from the very beginning of your SVSU education, which begins at freshman orientation (SOAR).

Focused on Four: You and Us

We're here for all our students, including those who wish to pursue the completion of their bachelor's degree in four years. It takes us working together. Here's how we begin: At Freshman Orientation—SOAR (**S**tudent **O**rientation, **A**dvising and **R**egistration)—you can get started by registering for 15-16 credit hours. But don't worry. Our academic advisers will *Focus on You*—letting you know whether managing this anticipated course load is the best option for you based on your high school GPA and ACT.

Focused on Four: Getting Started

We expect you to ask lots of questions about **Focused on Four**. That's what smart, motivated and determined people do.

To get answers to your questions, contact:

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A SUCCESSFUL STUDENT, "FOCUSED ON FOUR," AND AN ALL AMERICAN.

I AM ZACH MYERS

Zach Myers has never settled for "average" or "ordinary." And so it should be no surprise that the NCAA Division II "National Player of the Year" (soccer) and All American completed his degree at SVSU in four years.

Zach's successes — on and off the field — have taught him valuable educational and life lessons. And though he completed his degree in four years, Zach feels that his college experience was whole, complete. "I never wanted to be the athlete who performs on the field and is never part of the campus life." And so Zach — a Dean Scholarship recipient, peer advisor, "Forever Red" member (a "pre-alumni" student organization to engage students with alumni while building RED PRIDE tradition) and member of the Student Advisory Board for the College of Business & Management — made the very most of his four years.

After graduating in May 2013, Zach is looking at graduate schools, with intentions to pursue a master's degree in sports administration and someday be a collegiate athletic director. That dream job is a bit more specific — to be SVSU's athletic director.